

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-20 (canceled).

21. (new) A dielectric barrier discharge lamp, comprising:
- a tubular discharge vessel which is filled with a discharge medium;
 - two inner electrodes having a constant distance between them arranged diametrically on the inner side of the discharge vessel and oriented parallel to the longitudinal axis of the discharge vessel;
 - a dielectric layer on at least one of the inner electrodes, which layer separates the inner electrode or inner electrodes from the discharge medium;
 - a leadthrough region comprising a gastight pinch in which the plane of the pinch lies in the common plane of the two inner electrodes, the inner electrodes having ends that extend into the leadthrough region, the constant distance between the electrodes being maintained in the leadthrough region, the dielectric layer at least extending to the pinch;
 - two supply conductors, each supply conductor associated with one of the inner electrodes, the conductors overlapping and bearing against the end of the associated inner electrode in the leadthrough region to form an electrical connection; and
 - the pinch completely surrounding the electrical connections and maintaining mechanical contact between the inner electrodes and the associated supply conductors.
22. (new) The dielectric barrier discharge lamp as claimed in claim 21, in which the pinch additionally includes an exhaust tube.
23. (new) The dielectric barrier discharge lamp as claimed in claim 21, in which the ends of the inner electrodes that extend into the leadthrough region are widened.
24. (new) The dielectric barrier discharge lamp as claimed in claim 23, in which the ends of the inner electrodes that extend into the leadthrough region are widened with a soldering dot.

25. (new) The dielectric barrier discharge lamp as claimed in claim 21, in which the dielectric layer extends partway into the pinch.
26. (new) The dielectric barrier discharge lamp as claimed in claim 21, in which the supply conductors are wires having a diameter between 0.3 mm and 1.5 mm.
27. (new) The dielectric barrier discharge lamp as claimed in claim 21, in which the supply conductors are wires having a diameter between 0.5 mm and 1.0 mm.